

JUNE 2022

# THE ARQUIVES

2021 ANNUAL SNAPSHOT

**PREPARED BY**

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The ArQuives is a registered charity with  
the Canada Revenue Agency (Charitable  
118832864RR00001).

# BOARD MESSAGE

**In 2021, we once again had every aspect of the work we do at The ArQuives be impacted by the ongoing global pandemic. Despite the adversities, the closures, and the many organizational changes throughout the year, we have continued our critical mission: to acquire, preserve, organize, and give public access to information and materials in any medium, by and about LGBTQ2+ people.**

Regardless of the ebbs and flows of the pandemic, The ArQuives remained committed to the community it serves, facilitating several ongoing partnerships including the Inclusive Voices Collection Review and the LGBTQ Oral History Digital Collaboratory, as well as welcoming new partnerships with our newly launched LGBTQ2+ Inclusive Education Program and the Salaam Canada Oral History project. Beyond key partnerships, we also held a series of exhibitions and events alike— including our monthly Queer Trivia, Abdi Osman’s Shadowboxing in the upper windows of The ArQuives, the virtual Queerspawn Digital Storytelling Project, and a screening and discussion of *El satario*.

Covid continued to impact our financial picture in 2021 more than we had expected. That being said, we remain proud of the team’s ability to manage in times of uncertainty. Fortunately, through hard work and steadfast commitment, we finished the year with a surplus, once again. We increased our fundraising drastically with some one time benefits not likely to reoccur annually and managed to keep expenses lower with The ArQuives physically being closed. As we look at 2022, our expenses are likely to increase in alignment with our reopening strategy— a moment we have long waited for, in order to better service the public. We will continue to focus on all aspects of fundraising to offset those increased costs.

We would like to express our gratitude and thanks to Raegan Swanson, our Executive Director (ED), as well as Sam Cronk who acted as Interim ED, and our amazing staff including Lucie Handley–Girard, Ariana Ho, Jordan Saroya, Deanna Bickford, and Nipun Kudalkar, who skillfully balanced working on-site and from home throughout the year. Thank you as well to our volunteers, who continued the work of so many of our committees, as well as to our Board.

Finally and with much appreciation, we wish to thank all of our financial supporters, our Guardians of The ArQuives, and every single donor and community member who supported us financially and allowed us to continue to do the work our community needs now more than ever.

As we look towards our 50th anniversary at The ArQuives in 2023, we remain committed to the global LGBTQ2+ community we serve, ensuring that we remain steadfast in our commitment to *Keep our Stories Alive*.



**Justin Hughes-Jones & Ana Rita Morais**  
Co-Presidents of the Board

01.

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02.

# PROJECTS, EVENTS, & PARTNERSHIPS.

# ONGOING PARTNERSHIPS

Despite the ongoing ebbs and flows of the pandemic, The ArQuives remained committed to the community it serves, participating in and facilitating several projects, partnerships, and events.

A massive amount of gratitude to all those we were able to work with over the past year.

### *Inclusive Voices Collections Review*

As part of our commitment to the creation of a Collection Development Plan, we engaged Inclusive Voices to conduct a Collections Review and Community Outreach surrounding our past collecting practices and community understanding of our collection. The Collections Review will be presented to The ArQuives membership at the 2021 AGM and its contents will direct the development of our collection over 2023-2027.

### *Archive/Counter Archive*

SSHRC partnership with York University, NFB, and MITACS for the upcoming film, "Parade."

### *Thinking Through the Museum*

SSHRC partnership with Concordia University and other partners, addressing inclusivity, equity, anti-oppression and anti-racism in heritage institutions.

### *LGBTQ Oral History Digital Collaboratory*

SSHRC Partnership with University of Toronto, the largest LGBTQ oral history project in North American history, the Collaboratory connects archives across Canada and the U.S. to produce a digital history hub for the research and study of gay, lesbian, queer, and trans oral histories.

### *Intergenerational LGBT Artist Residency*

We are pleased to continue our partnerships with the Intergenerational LGBT Artist Residency.



## NEW PARTNERSHIPS

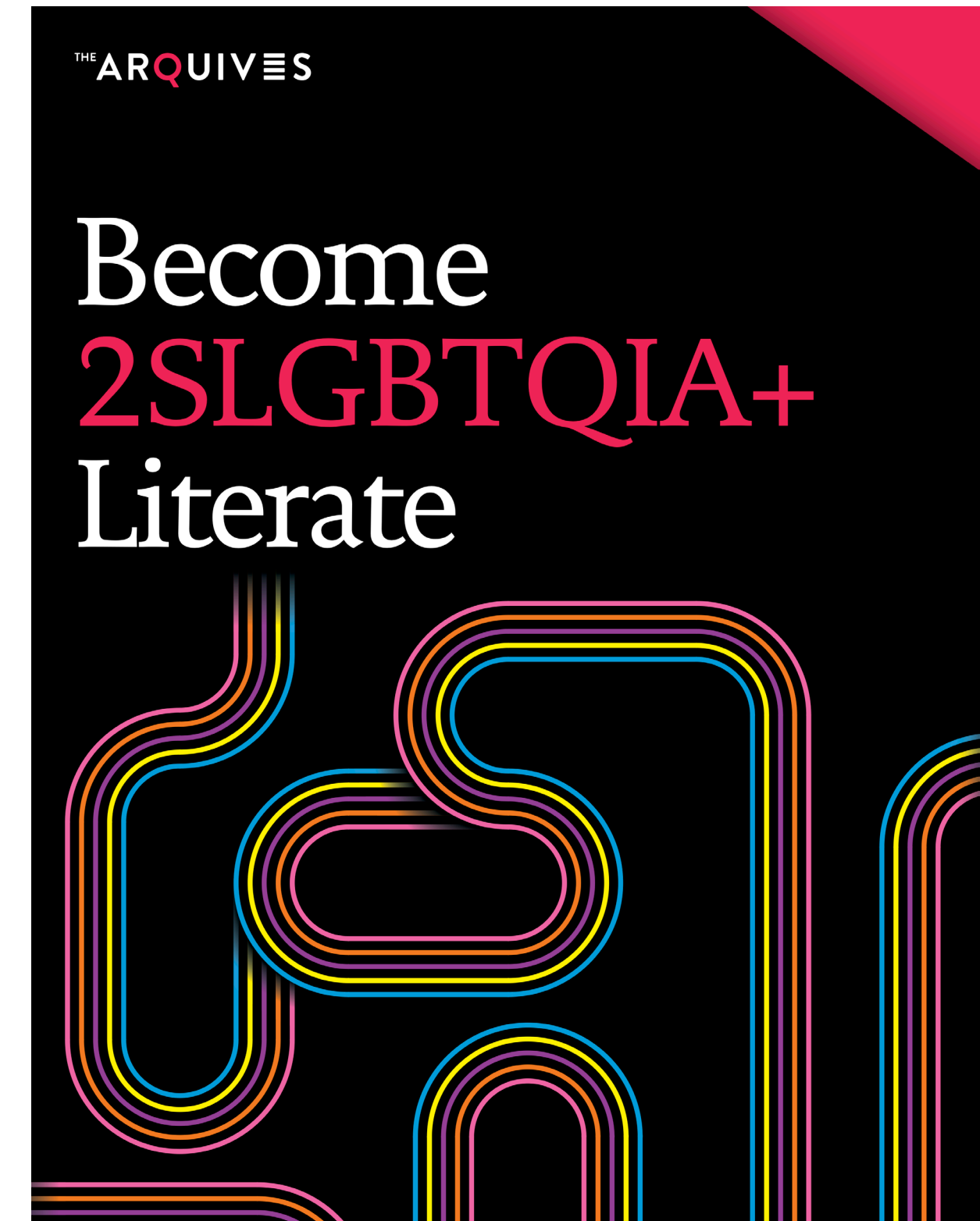
We are thrilled to welcome a series of key partners who we have been privileged to work alongside.

### LGBTQ2+ Inclusive Education program

For the past 15 years, The ArQuives staff have assisted educators with accessing our archival collections and connecting to LGBTQ2+ history. This includes regularly hosting school tours and presenting to educators and students. This year, thanks to a generous lead gift from Martha LA McCain, we have expanded our education capacity in a new way by launching The ArQuives' LGBTQ2+ Inclusive Education program in collaboration with secondary school educators and community partners. This initiative aims to integrate LGBTQ2+ experiences and stories into school curricula across multiple provinces. By activating our collections, we can build greater awareness, respect, and pride in LGBTQ2+ identities and history.

### Community Webs Web Archiving Project

In the summer of 2021, The ArQuives successfully applied to join the Community Webs program run by the Internet Archives. This program works to provide cultural heritage institutions resources to collect web-published materials to document their local communities. We started to build our repository of web archiving throughout 2021, which will continue. Web Archiving is a new collecting territory for most archives, especially community archives like us. Still, we are thankful for the assistance of Board Member and Digital Archivist Renee Saucier, who has been a fountain of knowledge and support.



### LGBTQ2+ INCLUSIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM

The ArQuives' LGBTQ2+ Inclusive Education program in collaboration with secondary school educators and community partners.

### Salaam Canada Oral History Partnership

Throughout 2021 in partnership with Salaam Canada, we worked with volunteer Golshan Golriz to conduct outreach to LGBTQ+ Muslims across Canada to increase our exposure and LGBTQ+ Muslim materials in The ArQuives. This partnership extended to The ArQuives hiring Khadijah Kanji to research and write a history of Salaam in celebration of their 30th anniversary. Through hours of oral histories conducted by Khadijah, she compiled an incredible history of Salaam. We are currently working to create an online exhibition to showcase these materials and to highlight the vital work of Salaam for the LGBTQ+ Muslim community in Canada.

### Queer Asian Writers Workshops

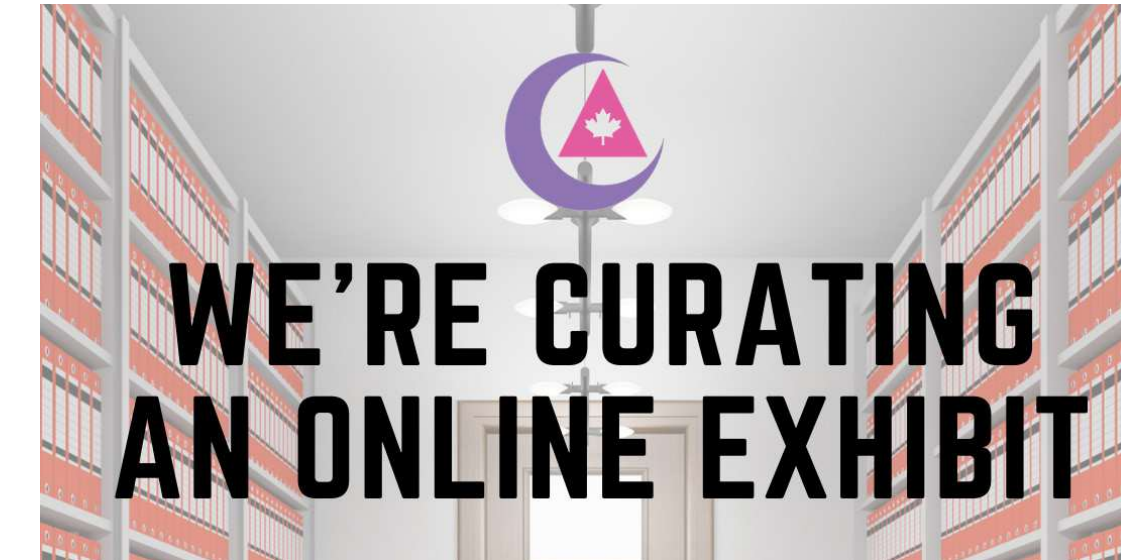
On February 25th The Historic Joy Kogawa House (Vancouver) and The ArQuives presented an evening of writing and other creative works hosted by author C.E. Gatchalian. The work emerged from a series of workshops for LGBTQI+ Asians, focused on anti-Asian racism during the pandemic and touched on the ways that the pandemic, the racism unleashed by the pandemic, and world events (Black Lives Matter) have directly affected the Asian community.

### Endeavour Marketing Partnership

Endeavour Consulting for Non-Profits is a Canadian charity that provides management consulting to improve organizational capacity and community impact for non-profits. The ArQuives worked with Endeavour to develop a marketing strategy and plan with the objective of increasing awareness of The ArQuives and engagement of its collections, exhibitions, and programming, at a local and national level.

### Humber Film & TV Program “Archives/LGBTQ2+ Heritage” Public Service Announcement

Humber Film and Television Production students Nusayba Mustafa and Derek Sharp approached us with a creative brief for a Public Service Announcement (PSA) about The ArQuives. They entered and won a Humber pitch contest, securing the funding to develop their script and bring it to life in a video spot featuring The ArQuives.



### SALAAM CANADA ORAL HISTORY PARTNERSHIP

The ArQuives presented an evening of writing and other creative works hosted by author C.E. Gatchalian.



### QUEER ASIAN WRITERS WORKSHOPS

The ArQuives presented an evening of writing and other creative works hosted by author C.E. Gatchalian.



## EXHIBITION: SHADOWBOXING

From September 16–November 2 in the upper windows of The ArQuives, the Shadowboxing exhibition was presented in partnership with Trinity Square Video. The exhibition builds on Abdi Osman’s ongoing research surrounding the gaps between experiences and representations of queer cruising, space-and place-making in the city.

Visible to pedestrians without being in direct sightline, a projection of lush green park environments documented by Osman from sites across the city appears from the upper window of the ArQuives’s building – a heritage home located in what is considered Toronto’s gay village. Osman’s holdings and records of queer, locational fortitude speak to the countless compounded sites around us where bodies have forged connections in time and space in spite of continued realities of homophobia, racism and white supremacy that exist in Toronto, and beyond.

The projection is augmented by an online audio work that features local oral histories about queer cruising from the perspectives and experiences of Black, queer, and trans community members, as recorded by the artist.

Audio for the exhibit was accessible via a QR code posted in our windows. On September 29, a public panel was held exploring histories of cruising from local perspectives. Presented by the Mark Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies, panelists included Abdi Osman, JORIAL (John Richard Allan), and Christopher Smith.



**SHADOWBOXING**

A public installation by Abdi Osman, 2021.

# EXHIBITION: QUEERSPAWN DIGITAL STORYTELLING PROJECT

One of the many ways that The ArQuives makes its collections accessible to the public is via our Digital Exhibitions.

We are proud to make collections more accessible, and to highlight our digital exhibition the Queerspawn Digital Storytelling Project.

The project was spearheaded by Sadie Epstein-Fine, creative and operational lead with community support from Makeda Zook in 2021. The goal of the project was to provide participants of all ages with one or more LGBTQ2+ parent(s) a way to explore aspects of the queerspawn experience through digital content creation. Over the course of 5 months, the project participants met virtually to share space and build community. They explored different ways to get into their stories and experiences.

The project included 13 participants, who created video, art projects and installations, audio stories, podcasts and essays, exploring how their identities and life experiences have intersected with their queerspawn identity.

This exhibition was organized by participants:

Stanley Safran Bergman  
Laurel Elisabeth Morgan Nunn Baskin  
Aviva Gale-Buncel  
Micah Champagne  
Mary Annette Clough  
Elizabeth Collins  
Meredith Fenton  
Sadie Epstein-Fine  
Laura Hall  
Robin Marquis  
Maya Newell  
Lisa Deanne Smith  
Makeda Zook



## QUEERSPAWN DIGITAL STORYTELLING PROJECT

Makeda Zook, Mary Annette Clough, and Krin Zook at Toronto Pride, 1992.

## EVENT: THREE OLD QUEERS - A QUEERS IN YOUR EARS

On June 23, in partnership with The ArQuives, QIYE marked their 25th anniversary by showcasing the stories of Rico Rodriguez (QIYE founder), Jeffrey Canton (long-time member), and educator and activist Tim McCaskell.

When the Toronto-based storytelling collective Queers in Your Ears (QIYE) was founded in 1997, telling personal stories about the varied experiences of being LGBTQ2S wasn't anywhere near as common as it is today. In the 25 years since this innovative group of storytellers first came together, there have been sweeping changes to the landscape of what it means to be queer but QIYE knows how important it is to preserve our experiences – good and bad – and to keep telling our stories.

To mark their 25th anniversary, QIYE collaborated with The ArQuives to create a virtual exhibition of memorabilia associated with their performance history that launched in October as well as a showcase in June 23 for the first of a series of concerts that QIYE presented that year.

Tickets are \$12 to \$15 with Sunday PWYC; call (416) 975-8555.

### Oral action: Fun for boys & girls

"Once long ago in Perugia, there was a man call Pietro di Vinciolo...."

So begins one of Jeffrey Canton's salacious stories of betrayal and ménages à trois in fourteenth century Italy.

Canton, along with Rico Rodriguez, Clare Nobbs, Jean Bubba and Ken Settingington will tell tales out of school at More Queers In Your Ears, part of the Toronto Storytelling Festival.

"It's going to be a lot of fun," says Canton. "The evening is a real grab bag of styles: From classic stories — like mine — to true life stories, remakes of old fairy tales and gushing lesbian erotica."

More Queers In Your Ears starts at 7pm on Thu, Feb 26 at Tallulah's Cabaret (12 Alexander St). Tickets are \$10, which includes a \$3 donation to the Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Youth Line. Call (416) 975-8555.

Q-TIPS. Queers In Your Ears.



### THREE OLD QUEERS - A QUEERS IN YOUR EARS

Q-Tips. Queers in Your Ears.

## EVENT: QUEER TRIVIA NIGHTS

The ArQuives has been fortunate enough to continue the ongoing monthly Queer Trivia night with a rotating theme each session. A massive thank you to the CEC who kept this wonderful event going throughout the pandemic.

The 2021 edition of the Queer Trivia monthly series featured a range of themes, including first trailblazers, LGBTQ2S+ romance through the ages, queering women's history, queer comedy, movies and TV, and pride history to name a few.



THE ARQUIVES HOUSE

## EVENT: EL SATARIO SCREENING & DISCUSSION

*El satario* is widely considered the oldest extant pornographic film. The Kinsey Institute estimates its date as early as between 1907 and 1912 and is likely to have been captured in Argentina. While other scholars feel it was filmed closer to the mid-1920s to early 1930s. Though its exact date and place of production are unknown, for the first time, three different prints of *El satario* surfaced together in Toronto and became available for scholarship.

In 2019 The ArQuives placement student Leonardo Gomes discovered a previously unknown print in our collection. Meanwhile, two prints, previously known to collectors were donated to the Mark S. Bonham Centre's Sexual Representation Collection at the University of Toronto. Over 2020 Leonardo researched and wrote his Film and Photography Preservation and Collections Management thesis on the film and The ArQuives was able to have *El satario* appraised.

Sponsored by The ArQuives and the Cinema Studies Institute at the University of Toronto, on May 6, 2021 we screened our copy of *El satario* and brought together three scholars of early Latin American cinema and visual culture— Carolina Cappa, Andrea Quarterolo, and Leonardo Gomes—to examine the film's social, cultural, and technical context, and the mysterious circumstances of its production, circulation, and reception.

For a full technical and artistic analysis of the film, you can now read Leonardo's thesis, *Afternoon of "El satario": Expanding on the Finding of an Unidentified Print at The ArQuives*.



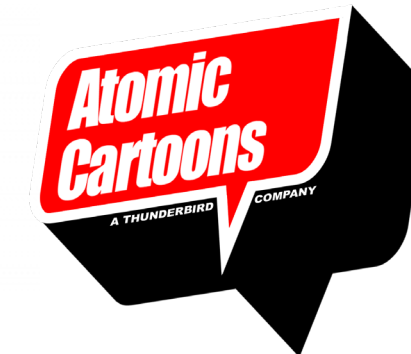
### EL SATARIO

*El Satario*, also known as *El Sartorio*, is one of the earliest surviving pornographic films, 1907.

# PRESENTATIONS, WORKSHOPS, AND LECTURES BY STAFF

The ArQuives offers presentations to organizations interested in Canadian LGBTQ2+ history and the founding of our organization. We delivered more than 20 presentations.

Thank you to all those who provided us with a space to speak about our work and history.



# 03. COLLECTIONS.

# COLLECTIONS

We are so delighted and grateful that donations have continued to arrive throughout the pandemic.

Our archivists having been inventorying these invaluable materials while continuing to process, arrange and describe all the documents, audiovisual recordings, objects and art that are at the heart of The ArQuives.

We were fortunate to receive and process collections from Bobby Noble, Salaam Canada and various LGBTQ+ Muslim organizations and individuals across Canada, Dykes on Mykes, LGBTQ Collaboratory, Amy Gottlieb, Queerspawn, and Jelena Vermillion to name a few.

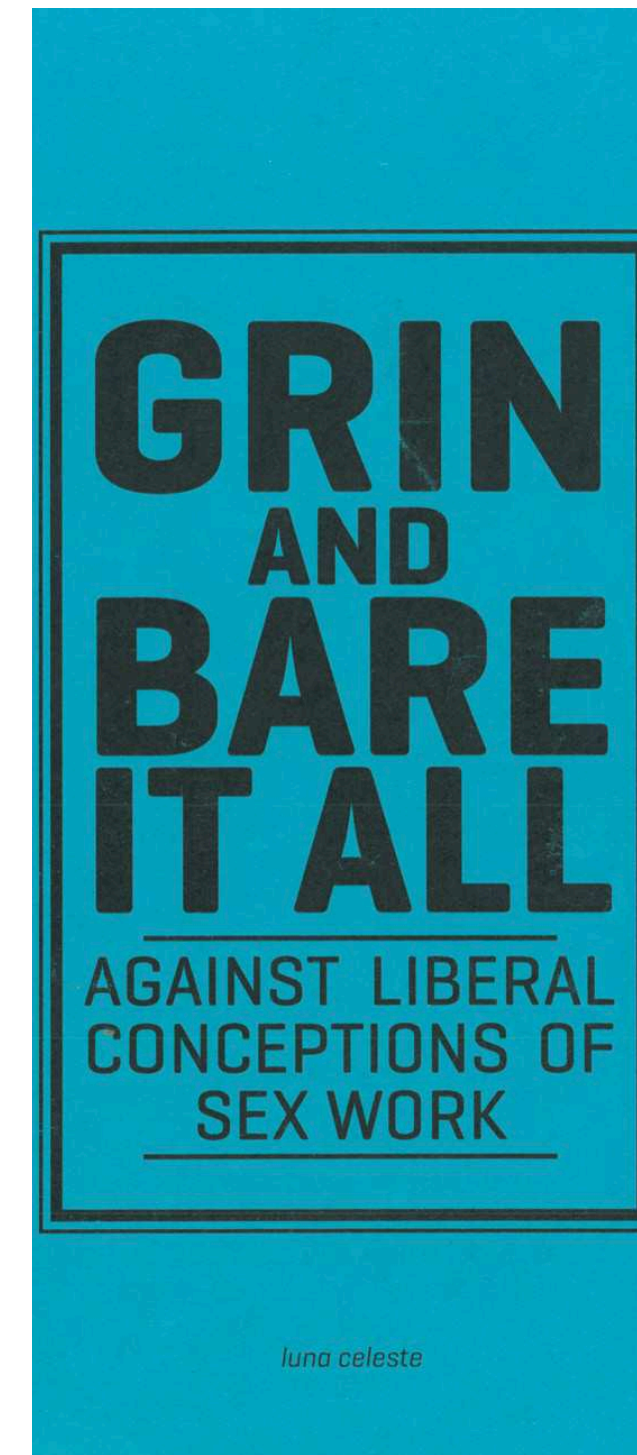


**SALAAM CANADA**

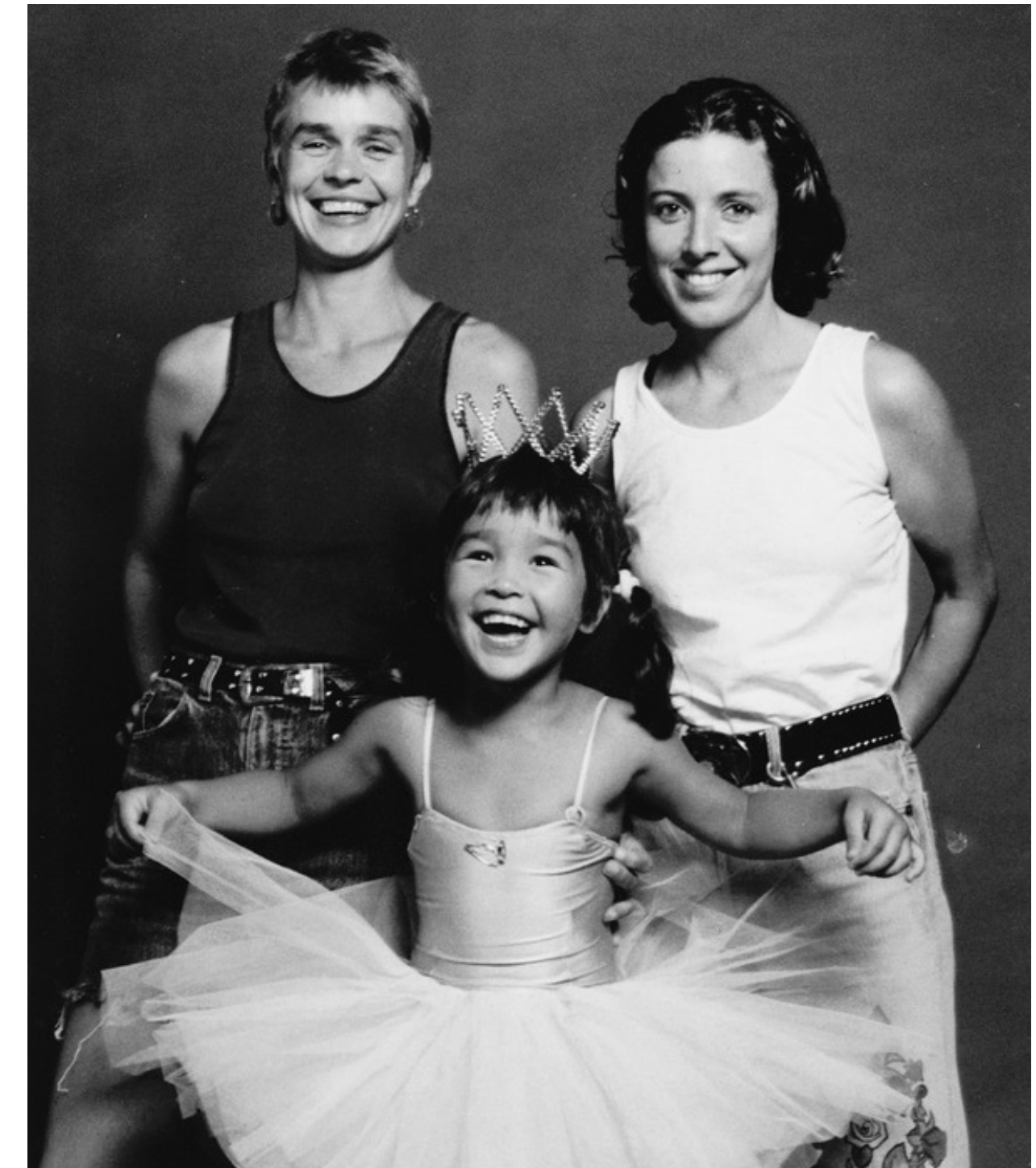
Art by Farha Najah.



**LGBTQ COLLABORATORY**



**JELENA VERMILLION FONDS**



**QUEERSPAWN FONDS**










Liz, Donna, Maya - Lovely Mothers Queer Family Visibility Project, Australia by Elisa Hall, Michelle Hargraeves and Catherine Fargher, 1993.



04.

# REVIEW OF 2018-22 STRATEGIC PLAN.

# REVIEW OF 2018-22 STRATEGIC PLAN

<p><b>1</b> <b>IMPROVED PUBLIC PROFILE</b></p> <p>The ArQuives continues to work to ensure we are adequately serving LGBTQ2+ communities in Canada. We must also ensure our reputation and our branding accurately reflect this mission. To this end, we have done the following:</p>	<p><b>2</b> <b>BUILDING COLLECTIONS</b></p> <p>There are ongoing efforts to build our collections to reflect the diversity of LGBTQ2+ people in Canada. The ArQuives will continue to develop relationships with community organizations and individuals. We continue to do this through:</p>	<p><b>3</b> <b>A DIVERSE AND VIBRANT TEAM</b></p> <p>We continue to maintain and build a vibrant, diverse, effective organization that attracts and retains the best staff, volunteers, and donors (of both essential archival material and needed funds). We will continue to achieve this by:</p>	<p><b>4</b> <b>IMPROVED PROGRAMMING</b></p> <p>Sharing our stories is essential to the mission of The ArQuives. We will continue developing dynamic, diverse, and exciting programming to engage the wider public to increase The ArQuives' community profile. We will continue to do this by:</p>	<p><b>5</b> <b>THE RIGHT SPACE</b></p> <p>We need a new space with room to further change, grow, house future collections, offer flexible and accessible space for public engagement, staff and volunteer work, and research. We are continuing to work on achieving this goal by:</p>	<p><b>6</b> <b>SUSTAINABLE AND DIVERSE FUNDING</b></p> <p>Diversified, steady, and secure funding is essential to achieving The ArQuives' ambitious 2018-2022 Strategic Plan and us continuing to collect, preserve, and share our stories. We continue to work on this by:</p>
<p> <b>ACTIONS TAKEN</b></p> <p>Adopted a new name that will serve us well into the future, drawing on community consultations.</p> <p>Carried out a rebranding campaign aligned with the new name.</p> <p>Completed a needs assessment of users and non-users of The ArQuives and used this to inform our operations.</p> <p>Improved responsiveness, including wait times, to the communities we serve.</p>	<p> <b>ONGOING ACTIONS</b></p> <p>Developing and executing a Collection Development Plan.</p> <p>Develop mutually beneficial, ongoing collaborations with other not-for-profit organizations to ensure a more diverse set of collections.</p>	<p> <b>ACTIONS TAKEN</b></p> <p>Seeking input from similar organizations to address growing pains.</p> <p> <b>ONGOING ACTIONS</b></p> <p>Engaging more staff and volunteers from under-represented communities, with plans for retention, recruitment, and succession.</p>	<p> <b>ACTIONS TAKEN</b></p> <p>Developing and executing an Educational Programming Plan.</p> <p> <b>ACTIONS IN PROGRESS</b></p> <p>Developing and executing a new Programming Plan for improved, more diverse, and inclusive programming.</p> <p>Securing a grant to fund programming staff.</p>	<p> <b>ACTIONS IN PROGRESS</b></p> <p>Developing a plan to assess The ArQuives' current and future needs and to secure the right space.</p> <p> <b>OUTSTANDING ACTIONS</b></p> <p>Launch a Capital Campaign to fund this space.</p>	<p> <b>ACTIONS IN PROGRESS</b></p> <p>Developing and executing a long-term Fundraising Plan that emphasizes the sustainability and diversity of funding sources.</p> <p>Improving our public profile to better facilitate fundraising.</p>

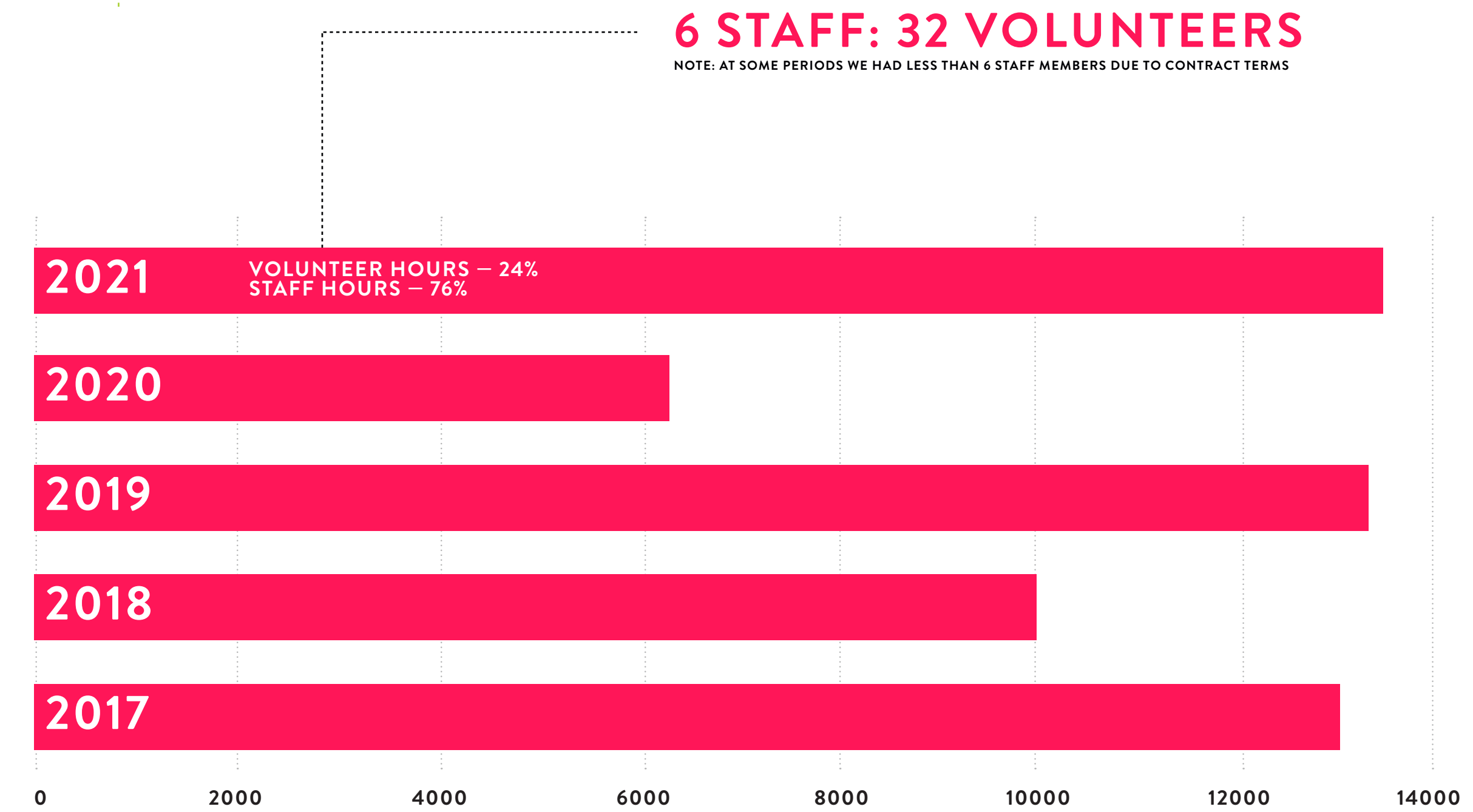
05.

# VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF.

# VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF

The number of volunteers and their hours worked was once again impacted by the closure of The ArQuives as a result of the pandemic.

We are grateful to all the volunteers who were able to continue their work from home and look forward to having folks back in the building.



### WORKING HOURS

Despite the pandemic and our closure we still had a tremendous amount of volunteer and staff support throughout the year.

06.

# FINANCIAL OUTLOOK.

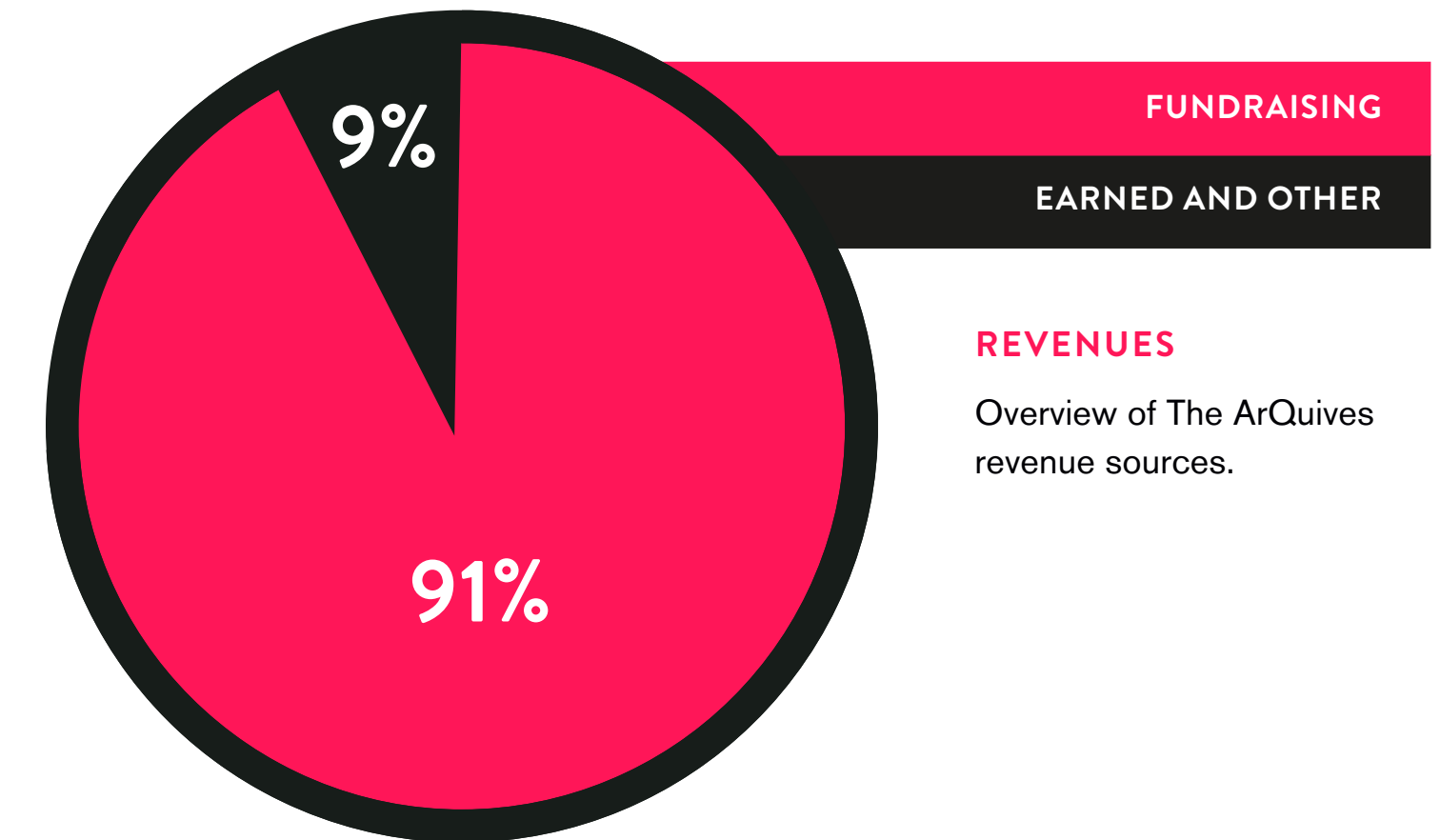
# FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

The financial results of The ArQuives for 2021 were once again impacted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. While we are pleased to report a large net surplus of \$210,442, it is important to note that this surplus was largely the result of one-time extraordinary items that are not likely to be relied on in the future.

Accordingly, The ArQuives will continue to face challenges in balancing its operating budget in the coming years. We are fortunate however to hold significant reserves which will assist the organization in the near term with the flexibility needed to meet these financial challenges along with its other strategic operating goals.

Net operating income in 2021 ended with a surplus of \$13,790 compared to a deficit of \$88,355 in the previous year. This was primarily due to revenue growth in 2021 of \$144,592, a 32% increase largely due to bequest donations including a final tranche gratefully received from the Stewart Estate.

REVENUES	2021	2020
Fundraising	\$538,355	\$378,024
Earned Revenues	\$52,922	\$68,661
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$591,277</b>	<b>\$446,685</b>

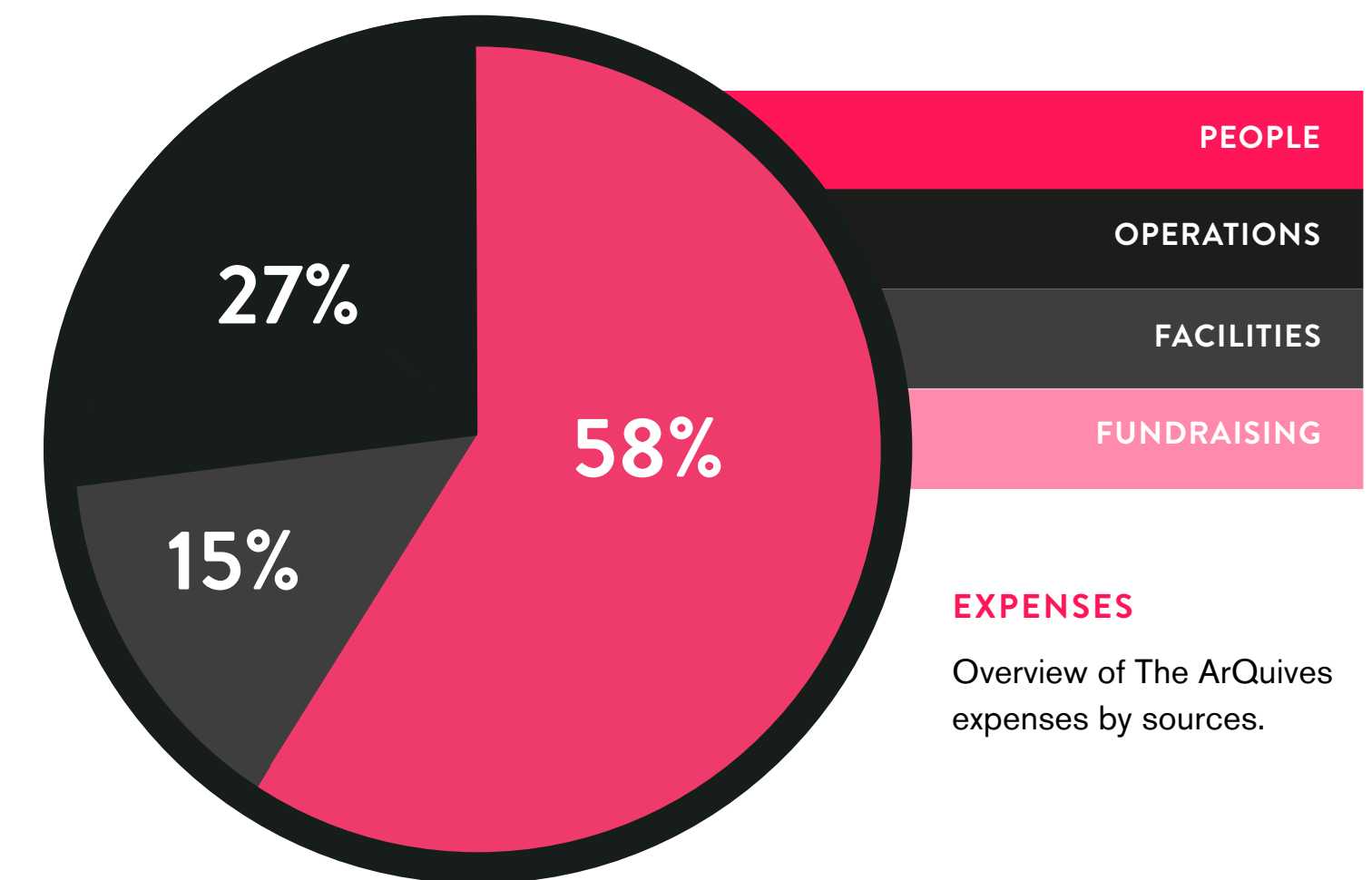


# FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

Operating expenses rose 8% in 2021 compared to the previous year. Pressure on spending was evident in most areas. It should be noted however that for the second year running spending was below budget as programs and activities were again curtailed by COVID-19 operating conditions.

Our financial statements report certain non-operating revenues and expenses separately. Net other income rose to \$196,652 in 2021, up from a \$139,558 in 2020. As in the previous year, these revenues were largely derived from temporary government assistance and very healthy investment results. We were again grateful to receive Federal Government COVID-19 assistance in the amount of \$73,541. In addition, we are reporting, for the second year running, that net investment income was very positive contributing significantly to our end results in 2021. Our experience is that investment income can vary widely from year to year. Thus, we remain focused on working towards balancing our operating budget in the coming years.

EXPENSES	2021	2020
People	\$337,749	\$285,514
Facilities	\$84,401	\$73,304
Operations	\$155,150	\$146,110
Fundraising	\$187	\$30,112
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$577,487</b>	<b>\$535,040</b>



07.

# DONOR RECOGNITION.



# DONOR RECOGNITION

We would like to give our heartfelt thanks to the individuals, organizations, and community groups that supported our work through this incredibly challenging year with their thoughtful financial donations and involvement.

## CHAMPIONS \$10,000+

Dennis Findlay  
The Estate of William E. Graham  
Richard Isaac & Brian Sambourne  
Martha LA McCain  
Gilles Provost & Claude Jutras  
The Estate of James D. Stewart  
TD Bank Financial Group  
The Estate of Alexander J. Turner

## GUARDIANS \$5,000–9,999

David Johnson  
K.M. Hunter Charitable Foundation  
Pink Triangle Press  
Trevor Young

## GUARDIANS \$2,500–4,999

Michael Halleran  
Charlie Hill  
Gerald Hunt & David Rayside  
Metcalf Foundation  
In Memory of Norman Walsh Taylor

## GUARDIANS \$1,500–2,499

Harold Averill  
Benevity Inc.  
BentallGreenOak Canada Limited Partnership  
Timothy Banks & Farrell Macdonald  
Rachel Lauren Clark & Carol-Ann Chapman  
John Clifford  
William Craddock  
David DesLauriers & Nicolas Burbano Diaz  
Aidan Grove-White & Chad Story  
Gerald Hannon  
Don Haslam  
Norman Hatton  
Justin Hughes-Jones & Randy Coles  
Ed Jackson  
Patrick Keilty & Matthew Schuman  
Barrie Martin  
Duncan McLaren  
Donald McLeod  
Alan Miller  
John Montague & Alan Ray  
Pearse Murray  
Francine Odette  
Gerry Oxford  
Robert Wallace

# DONOR RECOGNITION

We would like to give our heartfelt thanks to the individuals, organizations, and community groups that supported our work through this incredibly challenging year with their thoughtful financial donations and involvement.

## LEGACY CIRCLE

Scott Ferguson and Russell Mathew  
Dennis Findlay  
Gary Fitzgibbon & Virgilio Rebelo  
Gerald Hannon  
Don Haslam  
Ed Jackson  
Alan Miller  
Paul Shepherd  
In Memory of Norman Walsh Taylor  
Robert Wallace  
Tom Warner

We sincerely thank those donors who have included The ArQuives in their will and estate plans. These gifts will leave a lasting legacy that will benefit our communities in years to come.

## GRANTING PARTIES

Ontario  
Trillium Foundation  
  
Fondation Trillium  
de l'Ontario  
An agency of the Government of Ontario  
Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

With the participation of  
Avec la participation de

 Library and Archives  
Canada  Bibliothèque et Archives  
Canada

# KEEPING OUR STORIES ALIVE.